

Whereas the Small Business Administration has been a critical partner in the success of the Nation's small businesses and in the growth of the Nation's economy;

Whereas the programs and services of the Small Business Administration have time and again proven their value, having helped to create or retain over 5,300,000 jobs in the United States since 1999;

Whereas the mission of the Small Business Administration is to maintain and strengthen the Nation's economy by aiding, counseling, assisting, and protecting the interests of small businesses and by helping families and businesses recover from natural disasters;

Whereas the Small Business Administration has helped small businesses access critical lending opportunities, protected small businesses from excessive Federal regulatory enforcement, played a key role in ensuring full and open competition for Government contracts, and improved the economic environment in which small businesses compete;

Whereas, for more than 50 years, the Small Business Administration has helped more than 23,000,000 Americans start, grow, and expand their businesses and has placed almost \$280,000,000,000 in loans and venture capital financing in the hands of entrepreneurs;

Whereas the Small Business Administration, established in 1953, has provided valuable service to small businesses through financial assistance, procurement assistance, business development, small business advocacy, and disaster recovery assistance;

Whereas the Small Business Administration has helped millions of entrepreneurs achieve the American dream of owning a small business, and has played a key role in fostering economic growth in underserved communities; and

Whereas the Small Business Administration will mark National Small Business Week, beginning April 9, 2006: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the entrepreneurial spirit of America's small businesses during the Small Business Administration's National Small Business Week, beginning April 9, 2006;

(2) supports the purpose and goals of National Small Business Week, and the ceremonies and events to be featured during the week;

(3) commends the Small Business Administration and the resource partners of the Small Business Administration for their work, which has been critical in helping the Nation's small businesses grow and develop; and

(4) applauds the achievements of small business owners and their employees, whose entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to excellence has been a key player in the Nation's economic vitality.

SENATE RESOLUTION 436—URGING THE FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION TO PREVENT PERSONS OR GROUPS REPRESENTING THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN FROM PARTICIPATING IN SANCTIONED SOCCER MATCHES

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. LUGAR, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. MARTINEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 436

Whereas, since 1984, the Islamic Republic of Iran has been identified by the Depart-

ment of State as an active sponsor of terrorism;

Whereas an Iran capable of deploying nuclear weapons constitutes a threat to international peace and security;

Whereas, in July 2003, the Iranian Ministry of Defense confirmed the results of a successful test of an intermediate range ballistic missile that is capable of striking Israel;

Whereas, since February 2003, Iran has—

(1) consistently misled the United Nations, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the European Union, and the United States about the scope of its nuclear activities; and

(2) taken steps to produce weapons-grade uranium;

Whereas top officials of Iran have repeatedly threatened the United States, including—

(1) Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who stated in June 2004 that “[t]he world of Islam has been mobilized against America for the past 25 years. The peoples call, ‘death to America’. Who used to say death to America? Who, besides the Islamic Republic and the Iranian people, used to say this? Today, everyone says this.”;

(2) members of the parliament of Iran who, on October 2004, shouted “Death to America” as that body unanimously approved legislation requiring the Government to resume uranium enrichment; and

(3) President Ahmadinejad, who stated on October 2005 that “God willing, with the force of God behind it, we shall soon experience a world without the United States and Zionism”, and referred to a world without the United States as “a possible goal and slogan”;

Whereas the Iranian President, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, in an October 26, 2005, address at the World Without Zionism conference in Tehran, declared that—

(1) Israel is “a disgraceful blot [on] the face of the Islamic world”;

(2) Israel “must be wiped off the map”;

(3) “anybody who recognizes Israel will burn in the fire of the Islamic nation’s fury”;

Whereas President Ahmadinejad also stated on December 8, 2006, that “If the Europeans are honest they should give some of their provinces in Europe . . . to the Zionists, and the Zionists can establish their state in Europe”;

Whereas Iran supports and provides funds to terrorist groups that are determined to destroy the State of Israel;

Whereas an estimated 6,000,000 Jews were killed in the Nazi Holocaust;

Whereas President Ahmadinejad has denied the existence of the Holocaust on numerous occasions, including—

(1) on December 8, 2005, when at an Islamic conference in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, he declared that “Some European countries insist on saying that Hitler killed millions of innocent Jews in furnaces . . . although we don’t accept this claim”;

(2) on December 14, 2005, when on Iranian television, he remarked that “They have invented a myth that Jews were massacred and place this above God, religions and the prophets”;

Whereas it is a crime in the Federal Republic of Germany to deny the existence of the Holocaust;

Whereas on June 9, 2006, the Federation Internationale de Football Association (referred to in this preamble as “FIFA”) World Cup soccer tournament is scheduled to begin in the Federal Republic of Germany;

Whereas the Islamic Republic of Iran is a member of FIFA, and the Iranian national team is scheduled to play its opening match on June 11, 2006, in Nuremberg, Germany, which was the site of war crimes tribunals that tried Nazi leaders for atrocities and genocide against Jews during the Holocaust;

Whereas the International Olympic Committee barred the Republic of South Africa from the Olympics until 1992, when the country repealed all of its apartheid laws during the previous year;

Whereas, in October 1964, FIFA suspended the national soccer team of South Africa from international competition until the Government of South Africa ended its policy of apartheid in 1991;

Whereas, on May 30, 1992, in a resolution imposing diplomatic and economic sanctions on Yugoslavia, the United Nations Security Council called on member states of the United Nations to “take the necessary steps to prevent the participation in sporting events on their territory of persons or groups representing Yugoslavia.”;

Whereas, in 1992, the Union of European Football Associations banned Yugoslavia from participating in the European soccer championships and prevented it from participating in the 1994 World Cup qualifying matches; and

Whereas Article 3 of the “Regulations Governing the Application of the FIFA Statutes” states that “Discrimination of any kind against a country, private person or groups of people on account of ethnic origin, gender, language, religion, politics or any other reason is strictly prohibited and punishable by suspension or expulsion.”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the terrible statements issued by the Iranian president and demands that he repudiate them;

(2) calls on the United Nations Security Council and all countries to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons;

(3) strongly urges the Federation Internationale de Football Association (referred to in this resolution as “FIFA”) to ban persons or groups representing the Islamic Republic of Iran from sanctioned international sporting competition, including the 2006 FIFA World Cup, until such time that Iran—

(A) rescinds its position disavowing the Holocaust;

(B) repudiates its calls for the eradication of the State of Israel;

(C) ends its support for terrorism; and

(D) ceases its pursuit of nuclear weapons; and

(4) calls on all FIFA members to support such actions within the appropriate FIFA governing bodies.

SENATE RESOLUTION 437—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF THE YEAR OF THE MUSEUM

Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. COLEMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. DODD) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 437

Whereas museums are institutions of public service and education that foster exploration, study, observation, critical thinking, contemplation, and dialogue to advance a greater public knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of history, science, the arts, and the natural world;

Whereas, according to survey data, the people of the United States view museums as one of the most important resources for educating children;

Whereas museums have a long-standing tradition of inspiring curiosity in schoolchildren that is a result of investments of